

SAINT MARGARET MARY PARISH

845 HIGH STREET, P.O. BOX 386

WESTWOOD, MA 02090

OFFICE 781-326-1071 FAX 781-329-1879

www.saintmmparish.org

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 8, 2020

ADMINISTRATOR:

Rev. Paul Soper

DEACON EMERITUS:

Rev. Mr. Joseph E. Holderried

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH:

Karlene Duffy – Ext. 101

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Denise Raftery – Ext. 102

PASTORAL ASSISTANT:

Brian Cullen – Ext. 107

PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Cindy Carlo – EXT. 100

CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Michelle French

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY - FRIDAY

9:30 AM - 5:00 PM

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 10:00 AM & 6:00 PM

Weekdays: 9:00 AM

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 3:30 - 4:30 PM

BAPTISMS:

Contact the office to schedule.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:

Contact the office for a visit to the homebound/sick.

MARRIAGE:

Please contact us at least six months in advance.



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT



"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him." - Mt 17:5b

PARISH SUPPORT

Weekend of February 22nd & 23rd

In-Pew: \$4,130

Online: \$1808

Mailed: \$325

Total: \$6,263

Liturgies for the Week

Mar.	9	Monday	9:00 AM	Jorge Soto
Mar.	10	Tuesday	9:00 AM	Jim Gallagher
Mar.	11	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Gregg Theriault
Mar.	12	Friday	9:00 AM	Maureen Clancy
Mar.	14	Saturday	4:30 PM	James & Nora Hession
Mar.	15	Sunday	10:00 AM	Hernando Lievano
			6:00 PM	Porcina Gomes



FEED THE HUNGRY

The **Social Justice Committee** will be collecting food for the Westwood Food Pantry. The most pressing need is for spaghetti or angel hair pasta and cans of tomato sauce.

Save the Date

Lenten Parish Mission

Sunday, March 22

Monday, March 23

Tuesday, March 24

7-8 PM

Message From Father Blaney



St. Margaret Mary parish began the season of Lent with a large number of people visiting the Church. Over 800 people came to receive ashes and over 100 came for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. All this in addition to the hundreds who came for Mass. All this speaks of a deep yearning to be connected to God. Pay attention to that yearning and use this time to do something that will bond you more deeply to the Divine Mysteries.

There is a group of parishioners who met last Wednesday in the Church to pray before the Blessed Sacrament. It was an uplifting time of prayer for me in that I experienced the desire of others to be closer to Jesus Christ. You are most welcome to come this Wednesday from 8-9 PM. There will be a priest available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Before that, however, there is a woman's prayer group that meets in the parish offices and a men's Bible study that meets in the Flower Room (I think that's what you call it). Both start at 6:45 and are open to all.

The Archdiocese has issued best practices to prevent the spread of harmful germs including the Corona Virus. Whereas we tend to spread disease mostly by our hands, the holy water fountains will be changed and cleaned regularly. Also, until further notice, we will suspend physical contact during the Sign of Peace at Mass. When invited to offer each other the sign of peace, we suggest a nod of the head, a warm smile, a slight bow. You get the idea.

Although our assignment to the parish does not begin officially until April 21, Fr. Paul and I have been using this time to become more familiar with the parish. We have met a few times already with the parish staff, who have been so supportive in helping us to get acclimated. Also, we have met with the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council. I have been impressed with the level of commitment of their members to set the parish in a position to help as many people as possible. Speaking of Parish Council, we will be meeting again this Tuesday evening in the parish offices.

This weekend is the kick-off for the Annual Catholic Appeal. This is a cause worthy of your consideration. Through the generosity of so many people throughout the greater Boston area, the Archdiocese is able to support the work of our parishes by providing essential services, such as finance management, legal services, development, canonical guidance, vocation recruitment, ethnic apostolate, faith formation, marriage preparation, etc. You will be receiving information at the Masses today about this appeal and a request for your support. I am grateful for whatever you are able to do.

Blessing on this week ahead.

BABY SHOWER ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Maternity Clothing Drive & Baby Shower
Combined This Year!!!!**



APRIL 25TH & 26TH

Every Donation Saves Lives!



The Annual Baby Shower to help women & babies will be APRIL 25th & 26th! This year, we are combining two events-- the Maternity Clothing Drive with the Baby Shower. We have been asked to help collect items to support a Pregnancy Shelter/Home needing Maternity Items as well as financial/material donations. We will still be collecting for our long-term partner-- The Respect Life Office/Fund for the Unborn.

WE WILL NEED LOTS OF HELP. Items Needed will be posted on the bulletin boards, doors, and in the weekly bulletin. If everyone could help out--families, kids/religious ed. teachers, maybe groups of teenage friends, everyone-- we can help save lives! Every donation saves lives! Also, with Lent now here-- perhaps families could pray the rosary together or have Eucharist Adoration for women and babies-- especially to save someone from an abortions but also for healing for the many women and men that have suffered after abortion.

Let us see the face of Christ in the unborn, in the women struggling to save their babies, & those who have been hurt. Matthew 25:40 reminds us to help others-- "whatever you do for the least of these, you do to me". Let us remember that as we see Jesus carrying his cross & falling three times, women in need of help are struggling with their own crosses--and more than they can carry or handle alone.

Are you aware that EVERY DAY in the U.S. there are 4000 abortions-- resulting in over 1+ million per year? Since 1973 (47 years) over 68 million abortions have happened in the U.S. And 68 million families have been hurt as well.

We will never know the number of babies and mothers saved through our own baby showers-- but EVERY LIFE IS A GIFT FROM GOD-- and this year we are called to help additional women and babies. In March, the fliers will be posted on the bulletin boards & at the doors. We will need help covering the doors for the Masses the weekend of the Baby Shower. Please let Brian know if you can help out.

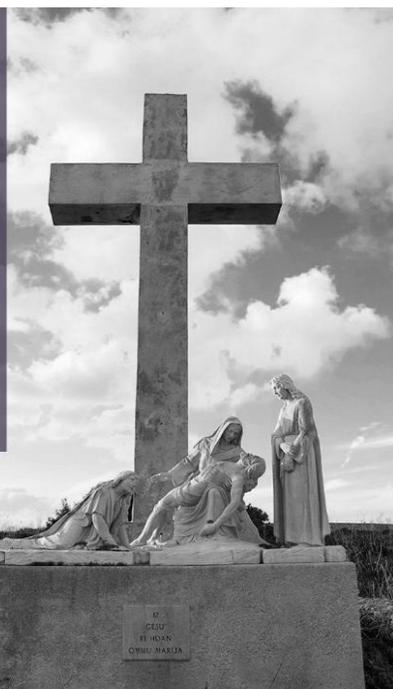
**Thank you and May God Bless you and Keep you always!
-- The Social Justice Committee**

Registration for **Discipleship Week** is open! This is a great opportunity for Catholic teens (Grades 9-12) who want to go deeper in their faith and spend five days with other teens from all over the diocese. Takes place June 24-28, 2020 at Assumption College

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join us at Stations at 3PM and 7PM on Fridays during Lent.

Year of the EUCHARIST



Women's Prayer Group

WEDNESDAY'S DURING LENT

Prayer Group
6:45PM

Adoration + Confession
8:00PM

6-Week Women's Prayer Group and Men's Bible Study

Begin Wednesday, March 4 from 6:45-8 PM. The Women's Prayer Group will meet in the Parish Office Conference Room and the Men's Bible Study will meet in the Rectory Dining Room. If interested, contact the office at 781-326-1071.

Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY'S DURING LENT

Bible Study
6:45PM

Adoration + Confession
8:00PM



Message From Brian Cullen



Dear Friends in Christ,

Today's second reading from St. Paul's second Letter to Timothy starts off "Bear your share of hardship for the Gospel with the strength that comes from God." We hear in both today's first reading and in the Gospel of two great figures, Abram and Jesus, being called by God to undertake difficult journeys which are both key moments in Salvation history. Both of these journeys help us to understand our own journeys, both our Lenten journey of walking with Jesus to Calvary as well as our lifelong journey to our Eternal Home.

Poor Abraham (note that he's still Abram in today's reading) didn't have an easy go of things. Though this reading is the first mention of him in Genesis, he was already 75 years old when God asks him to pick up all of his belongings, his wife and extended family and leave his home to a destination unknown to them. I'm 42 and I'm exhausted just reading it! But trusting in God and the remarkable promises He made to him, "Abram went as the Lord directed him." That's remarkable faith!

This weekend's Gospel is Saint Matthew's account of the Transfiguration of the Lord Jesus. We've moved ahead 13 Chapters from last Sunday's reading regarding Jesus' temptations in the desert which essentially marked the beginning of His public ministry, a ministry which saw the good Lord and his disciples without a place to rest their heads, travelling all over what we call Israel today. As we hear, Jesus takes Peter, James and John up a high mountain where He is transfigured before them, they encounter Moses and Elijah (representing the Law and the Prophets respectively) and hear the voice of the Heavenly Father tell them Jesus is His Son. That's quite an eventful hike, no wonder the 3 Apostles were terrified! Missing in Saint Matthew's account is Luke's line that Moses and Elijah tell Jesus of the "Exodus" that He is to undertake, namely the details of His Passion and Death on the Cross. While Peter, James and John were terrified, Jesus was resolutely determined to get to Jerusalem to accomplish the savings events that awaited Him there. That too is remarkable faith!

So here we are on the Second Sunday of Lent. How are your Lenten penances going so far? I'll admit that when my alarm clock goes off every day, I regret my decision to give up hitting snooze, but with the strength that comes from God, I'll continue my journey. When you too are feeling tempted, whether it be during this season of Lent or during the rest of your journey, continue to pick up your cross and follow Jesus. Only in faithfully sharing in His sufferings can we attain the glory that awaits us at Easter and in Heaven.

Yours in the Lord's Service,
Brian Cullen